



**Cornell University**  
**Cooperative Extension**  
**Erie County**

21 South Grove Street  
East Aurora, New York 14052-2345  
t. 716.652.5400  
f. 716.652.5073  
erie@cornell.edu  
<http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/erie/>

**WNY Small Fruit Growers Meeting June 8<sup>th</sup> in Clarence, NY:  
Opportunity to be Part of Soil Management Research Project**

**1:30 pm to 3:30 pm**  
**5685 Shimerville Road; Clarence Center, NY 14032**

Do you make standardized fertilizer applications based on your crop's age but have been thinking of trying an analysis-based fertilization program? Are you interested in exploring the benefits that the adoption of soil health testing can provide?

Research demonstrates an analysis-based approach to berry crop nutrition provides increased yields along with better fruit quality and plant health. Use of soil health management practices (i.e. cover cropping) has been shown to reduce weed, nematode and soil-borne disease pressure, along with improving soil tilth, organic matter and nutrient content. This workshop will discuss how a whole farm approach to berry crop nutrient and soil management can help address rising input costs and concerns about environmental impacts of fertilizers.

Sharon Bachman, Community Educator for Agriculture, will be presenting information developed as part of a 2-year NE SARE Professional Development Project, led by Dr. Marvin Pritts, Small Fruit Horticulturalist and Berry Crop Nutrition Specialist. The goal of the Project is to provide in-depth berry crop nutrition and soil management training and resources for ag educators and the commercial berry growers they serve. Cathy Heidenreich will also be on hand June 8<sup>th</sup> to answer growers' questions.

In this, year two of Dr. Pritt's NE SARE Project, in addition to grower trainings such as this one, **grower cooperators are being recruited to participate in one-on-one consultations on berry crop nutrition and soil health practices.** Educators trained by the Project will assist participating growers in adopting analysis-based berry crop nutrient and soil health management techniques and monitoring the success of these practices. You can find more information on the Project at <http://www.fruit.cornell.edu/berry/production/soilnutrientmgmt/webinararchive.html>

For Erie County small fruit growers who are interested in participating in the Project, but who are unable to attend the session on June 8th, contact Sharon Bachman (716-652-5400 x 150 or [sin2@cornell.edu](mailto:sin2@cornell.edu)) for more information on how you can be involved.

**The session is free, but rsvp's are requested to Sharon Bachman at 716-652-5400x150 or [sin2@cornell.edu](mailto:sin2@cornell.edu) by June 5<sup>th</sup>.**